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Sunday, June 13, 2010

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June 11, 2010, 3:58 pm

## Grim Resolve on an Oil-Soaked Isle

By [MIREYA NAVARRO](#)



Greenpeace Workers cleaning up the

beach this week in Grand Isle, La.



From her perch on her utility vehicle, Leoda Bladsacker surveyed the latest heartbreak along the seven-mile beach in Grand Isle on Thursday afternoon. In a normal summer, the town and barrier island of some 1,500 people about 110 miles south of New Orleans would have been teeming with 10 times that many vacationers from elsewhere in Louisiana looking to fish and swim.

But there's nothing normal about this season.

"There's some more coming in," said Ms. Bladsacker, one of five members of the town's council, pointing toward the waves as she rode up and down the beach with a reporter. "Right there! Oh, that was a good mess of it."

Oil from the Deepwater Horizon spill started showing up about three weeks ago, she said. The tide has been depositing reddish brown gobs that now blend in with the seaweed in the sand.

The beach is not closed, but with access restricted to the balcony section away from the shoreline, no beachgoer was in sight. Instead, cleanup crews and National Guardsmen worked to keep oil at bay with containment booms and removed contaminated sand with shovels.

Ms. Bladsacker has been keeping an eye on both the cleanup and the water. "You can smell it," she said of the oil stench.

The councilwoman, who projects toughness, said she was certain that the beach community would survive.

“We’re going to overcome this – don’t know how or when – but we will,” she said. “If there’s as much oil out there as they say, we’re in for the long haul, girl.”

But, gazing out over the beach, she said somberly: “We lost it. Right now, it’s not ours.”

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[1.](#)

microbrewski  
Pennington NJ  
June 12th, 2010  
6:49 am

We need our children to lead us out of this mess because we certainly do not \*get\* it. We are concerned but it really does not affect us that much in our daily lives. Very sad. God bless Mother Earth. She deserves it.

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canuckw  
vancouver b.c  
June 12th, 2010  
6:49 am

the Canadian broadcasting corporation CBC did a story about the far reaching effects of this catastrophe. Every year several hundred thousand Gannets fly from Louisiana - Gulf of Mexico to Newfoundland ,Canada. The Gannets are a big tourist attraction in Canada .They look very impressive and have a big wing spans. The CBC interviewed a Man who takes people out to these impressive Cliffs where they nest. He said he has grown to love the Gannets but when asked by the reporter what will happen to them when they head back to the Gulf he replied "they will be flying to their Deaths" his face was etched with worry. The Blue Fin Tuna migrates between Louisiana and Nova Scotia Canada. Marine Biologists are extremely worried about the Blue Fin's fate. This is no longer an American disaster created by BP. This is now an International disaster. Right now i am thinking of the good people who live on or near 7 mile beach Gran Isle. Many people in Louisiana have relatives in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

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US Citizen  
Germany  
June 12th, 2010  
6:49 am

Where do our tax dollars go? Americans pay hefty taxes when compared to the rest of the world (with laughable

social benefits), and yet we get a government that is so incompetent as to allow it to destroy some of the best fishing grounds on the planet (by sheer incompetence and laziness). Obama can try to blame BP for what has happened, but at the end of the day he has to accept the fact that at least 8 TIMES the amount of oil is flowing into the Gulf per day than his administration first told the world (remember the idiotic 5K barrels a day number first released to the public by the BP/White House team?). Poor America...Bush Jr. 2X's, Sept. 11th, Katrina, Afghanistan and now the (Gulf) Spill. God, give us a new government before the next disaster arrives.

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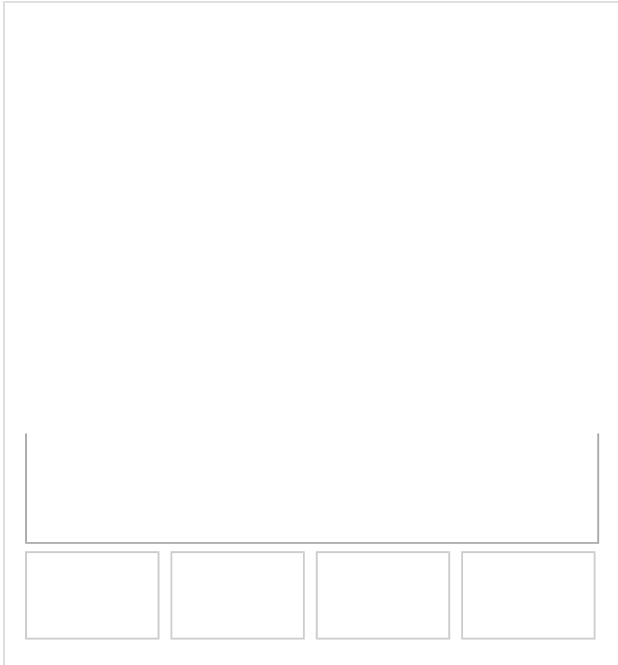
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